

shape of the active material latches the first member to the second member; and

activating the active material and latching the first member to the second member.

19. The process of claim 18, wherein the active material comprises a shape memory alloy, a ferromagnetic shape memory alloy, a magnetorheological fluid or elastomer, an electroactive polymer, piezoelectric material, an ionic poly-

mer metal composite, a magnetorheological elastomer, and combinations comprising at least one of the foregoing materials.

20. The process of claim 18, wherein the activation signal comprises an electric current, a temperature change, a magnetic field, a mechanical loading or stressing and combinations comprising at least one of the foregoing signals.

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